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In the Specification:

The paragraph beginning on page 1, line 4 has been amended as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part application of Serial No. 10/339,478, filed January 9, 2003, now U.S. Patent No. 6,986,796 to Warchocki et al., which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/837,778, now abandoned, which claims priority on U.S. provisional application Serial No. 60/198,175, filed April 19, 2000.

The paragraph beginning on page 7, line 11 has been amended as follows:

It will be understood by those of ordinary skill in the art that the main body portion 20 of the lid 10 may be of any suitable shape to mate with and close an opening in the container 16 for the casing 18, which also may be of any suitable shape. Therefore, the present invention contemplates any configuration of two portions of an electrical energy storage device casing which when mated form a cavity therein. This includes casings of a cylindrical shape, prismatic shape, button shape and a casing formed of mating "clam shell" portions, such as described in U.S. ~~application Serial~~ Patent No. 6,613,474 to Frustaci et al 09/757,232, filed January 9, 2001. This application is assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated herein by reference.

The paragraph beginning on page 9, line 15 has been amended as follows:

Fig. 4 further shows a thermoplastic insulator 56 encasing the ferrule 22 and a portion of the terminal lead 44. A preferred thermoplastic material is a fluoro-polymer, for example polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) that surrounds the ferrule 22 from the lower surface 14 of the lid 10 and continues along a portion of the length of the terminal lead 44 to a distance spaced from the ferrule. The annular rings 30 of the ferrule 22 provide a discontinuous pathway that helps maintain a hermetic seal between the thermoplastic insulator and the ferrule. Also, thermoplastic materials generally flow better around and into annular rings than traditional threads. A lower portion 58 of the terminal lead 44 is left uncovered for subsequent connection to the cathode current collector 46, as described above. The primary function of the insulator 56 is to help segregate the anode from the cathode adjacent in the vicinity of the lid 10.

The paragraph beginning on page 10, line 21 has been amended as follows:

Fig. 7 shows the insulator material 56 having been injected into the mold assembly 60 through a sprue 68 and gate 70 (Fig. 5) leading to the annulus 64. The thermoplastic material 56 fills the entire void of the annulus 64 to surround the ferrule 22 including the annular rings 30 and a portion of the length of the terminal lead 44. In this manner, the insulator 56 encases the terminal lead 58 supported by the glass-to-metal seal 42, which, in turn, is supported by the ferrule portion 22 of the unitary lid 10. The insulator 56 in conjunction with the separator 50 prevents the anode electrode from contacting the cathode electrode.